(d) the reasons for bringing it down;

(e) whether the new tariff policy has anything to do with power generation target; and

(f) how the new tariff helps in saving electricity, supply of power to consumers at reasonable rates and reducing the shortage of power?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Based on review of the progress of development of the originally identified as well as additional identified projects, various clearances and fuel linkages, as per the Mid-Term Appraisal for 10th Plan, the capacity addition target was fixed at 36,959 as compared to the original target of 41,110 MW.

(e) and (f) The draft tariff policy aims at ensuring availability of electricity to consumers at reasonable and competitive rates, financial viability of the sector and also attracting necessary investments.

Tariff Plan

3154. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that by the proposed tariff plan, Government is going to incorporate crucial changes, whereby new power plants, especially those set up by the private sector will not require to follow the cost plus formula for determining the tariffs;

(b) whether the policy can also make the public sector companies to follow competitive market driven tariff structure for the incremental capacity addition to their existing plan;

(c) whether the Committee of Secretaries has finalized the proposed policy; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (d) Under the provisions of section 3 of the Electricity

Act, 2003, the Central Government is required to prepare the tariff policy in consultation with the State Governments and the Central Electricity Authority. Under section 79 of the Act, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission is required to advise the Central Government on formulation of the Tariff Policy. The draft tariff policy has been prepared after following the above consultation process and is presently under consideration of the Government.

Electrification of Villages/Hamlets in Karnataka

3155. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka Government has sent any proposal to the Government for electrification of 150 villages and over 16,000 hamlets in the State which are currently not covered by the power grid;

(b) if so, by when the proposal was received; and

(c) the present status of the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) Karnataka Government has forwarded twenty six district based Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) with an outlay of Rs. 61336.65 lakhs covering electrification of 132 un-electrified villages and intensive electrification of 22695 already electrified villages by covering 2005323 rural households {including 902373 Below Poverty Line household (BPL)} in 47448 habitations under Government of India scheme Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY).

Seventeen district based projects involving an outlay of Rs. 37538.77 lakhs covering electrification of 49 un-electrified villages and intensive electrification of 21152 electrified villages by covering 1319939 rural household (including 631828 BPL household) in 19868 habitations have been sanctioned under RGGVY during current year. District-wise details of these projects are given at Statement.